

# The Immediate Call to the Church in Canada From the Peace River District

Stressed by the Bishop of Athabasca who sends these photographs and the message below and on page 3.



Ferry on Peace River at Dunvegan, W. Peace River Mission.



Peace River—the home of Bishop and Mrs. Robins—350 miles north from Edmonton

"In this Diocese we have 30 Churches, centres for 100 services, but not services held every Sunday. They are held in different places—perhaps it is a log hut, school houses, on boats, on railway trains, in tents. But while these little congregations are with difficulty organized, what about the in-coming, far-scattered new-comers? It is reported that 6,000 homesteaders entered this country last year. The average homestead is 160 acres. Think, therefore, of an area reaching from Toronto to Montreal and as far north. If you could see those long trains arriving, full of people all strangers to each other— and settling in, not in groups but here and there over this vast country as they choose their land!

The missionary must reach them in these early days of need or the opportunity is gone— As surely as the ninety-nine were left and the lost sheep sought, as surely as the woman with the missing piece from her necklace must seek till she finds it, and as the mourning father seeks for his wandering son, so must the Church seek these scattered people.

If among these newly settled areas there is no saying of the creed, no singing of hymns, no gathering together for prayer and sacrament, the sense of Godliness is in danger of breaking down.

I cannot find anything that better fits the needs of these people than all that goes with the teaching and expression of our own Church. (Continued on page 3)



Hudson Bay S.S. D. A. Thomas passing under a bridge near Bishop Robin's home. Its route is from Hudson's Hope to Vermillion Chutes—over 350 miles.



The town of Spirit River in the W. Peace River area. Kindness of Dept. Interior, Dominion Government.



The Bishop and Canon White on a winter journey visit a northerly homestead—20 miles north of Lesser Slave Lake.



Fort Vermillion, the most northern and one of the oldest Missions in the Diocese—On the Peace River 300 miles from the nearest railway.

## Fire and 'Flu in the North

Extracts from letters received by Rev. T. B. R. Westgate, D.D., from Miss Gertrude Heaton, R.N., Nurse at the Wabasca Mission, Diocese of Athabasca, in which she gives an account of a recent visit made by her to a number of Indian settlements, in that part of Alberta.

Letter Dated February 18, 1929.

"You will notice from my letter that I am at Trout Lake, a small settlement some eighty miles North of Wabasca. A serious epidemic of 'Flu' has broken out and some nine natives have died as a result, and there are seven more whom I do not expect will recover. In some cases serious complications such as pneumonia, ear trouble, bladder trouble have set in.

The Revillon Freres Trading Co., made it possible for us to come in, furnishing the team, etc. I expect to be here at least a week. I am staying at their post. Most of the natives are destitute and without means. I have written the Indian Agent of the existing conditions in hope that he may be able to do something to help these people.

I arrived back at Wabasca from town on January 27th, and had some very severe weather, the temperature ranging from 40 to 50 below zero. I was on the trail for four days, making the trip with Mr. J. Gullion (Indian freighter). I felt quite tired after the journey, but am feeling much better now. There was but very little sickness at Wabasca when I left."

Letter Dated March 4th, 1929.

"No doubt by this time you have heard and had full particulars of the fire at Wabasca. It came as quite a shock to me being away at Long Lake at the time. I heard the news a week after the fire. I had a few medicines with me and hardly any clothing as I only expected to be gone a week or ten days. I have lost everything and am for the present staying at the School sharing a bedroom with Miss Muriel Dawe and have the School medicines to carry on with for the time being.

I had a very pleasant trip into Long Lake and had two good interpreters. When I arrived a number of the natives had died and those who were ill were very willing to take the medicines, etc., that I gave them. They were all afraid they were going to die. None died during my stay there, but I believe one young woman will not last long. She is a bad T. B. case. Most of them were suffering from the 'After effects' of the Flu, pneumonia, kidney and ear trouble, and were all undernourished and starving. They have been unable to do any trapping and there is very little fur. I have written Mr. Laird (Indian Agent) of the existing conditions and Mr. Stewart, Revillon Freres Manager has kindly consented to handle the

medicines I am sending in to these people. In some parts they had never seen a white woman and in some cases would stare at me, and others would hide.

On my trip into Long Lake I treated one patient at Horse Lakes and another, a baby, at the Old Post and eight at the Long Lake post. I arrived at Long Lake late Sunday evening or rather early Monday morning, having left Wabasca the Friday previous. On Wednesday I visited the end of the Lake some five miles distant. Here I treated five patients and on Friday journeyed on to Round Lake and saw six sick people. Then I travelled on to Twin Lakes some twelve miles away and treated seven patients. Here I discovered a very bad case of pleurisy and when I entered the house the man's face lit up and he smiled. He had heard I was coming and was very anxious to get well. I worked with him for about an hour and a half and when I left next morning he was feeling much better, and I am of the opinion that with a great deal of careful nursing he will soon be well again. He was about forty five years old. I journeyed thus far with the Revillon Freres Manager and the teamster. We had to camp over night and the roads were too badly drifted to make the round trip in one day. On Monday I visited the Bald Hill, some five miles away and saw two patients. The next day I travelled to God's Lake. This trip was made with dogs as there was no team road; the journey was fifteen miles, but I was able to make it in a day as the dogs travelled quite fast. Here I treated four patients. It was at this settlement I discovered the T.B. case.

On the return trip to Wabasca at the stopping places, I treated four patients but none were seriously ill. They all seemed glad to see a white woman and asked if I would come back again next year to see them all. I promised I would if I was still at Wabasca because I enjoyed every minute of my trip thoroughly; but pray my homecoming the next time will not be as sad as this one."

Note: On February 19th while this devoted nurse was absent on this difficult mission of mercy, the house at Wabasca Mission in which she lived was destroyed by fire with a total loss of all her personal belongings and also all instruments, dressings, drugs, and other medical supplies.

The Mission gave all possible help in this serious emergency, the Hudson Bay Post also coming generously to her aid while fresh medical supplies were being secured from the government.

## The Arctic Mission

Rev. H. A. Turner, after visiting with Bishop Anderson the Missions at the entrance to Hudson Bay, arrived at Pangnirtung, on the north shore of Baffin Land, on September 20th. He writes with enthusiasm of the Fiord, 2½ miles wide, running up into the island from Cumberland Sound, upon which the Mission is situated about nine miles up. "Here Bishop Anderson held two services, and about 52 people were baptized and confirmed."

Pond's Inlet, on the north-western coast of the island, was also visited. "Bishop Anderson staked out a piece of ground here in readiness for a new Mission. About 120 families visit this post every year, some travelling about 300 miles to do so, and therefore, a Missionary taking up this work would have to be prepared to do much travelling among these people who are hardly touched as yet, although a few have books, and are giving up their old superstition. Many read our Prayer Book and use the hymns, and quite a number have copies of the New Testament in their own tongue.

At Southampton Island, Kidlapik, one of Dr. Peck's old converts, is doing a wonderful work among the natives, holding about 60 per cent. of the people—although many children are attending the R.C. Mission—the lack of a white teacher being a serious matter.

A number of natives were confirmed here."

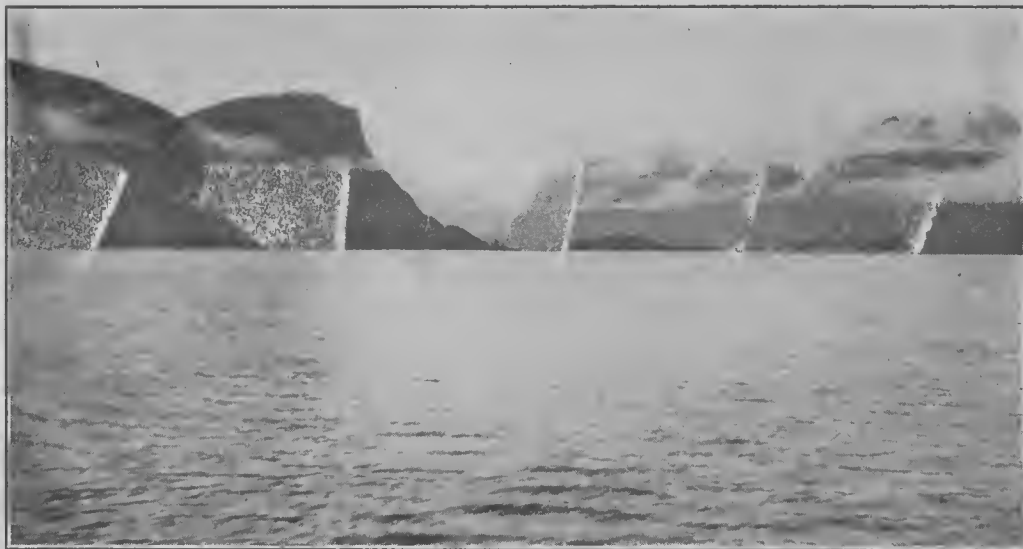
Good news has been received from the Rev. D. B. Marsh at Eskimo Point (west coast of Hudson Bay). Mr. Marsh expected to make a journey of several weeks' duration in order to visit the Eskimo belonging to the Mission who were hunting at distant points.

Extract from letter from Mrs. Griffin:

Port George, Dec. 15, 1928.

Over the radio last night came the message that a plane was coming in to bring the Christmas Mail to all the points in Hudson's Bay. We were almost beside ourselves with delight. The clerks from the trading companies were up with us at the Mission and they too were greatly excited. This is the first mail that has been brought in before the end of January to Fort George. The natives also are greatly excited.

The weather on Christmas Day was fine, and we had very good services. On the 28th we had our Christmas tree, when the children received gifts, sweets and biscuits. The older women were given a cake of soap and the young women books. They all seemed very happy.



Pangnirtung Fiord, Baffin Land, running inland for 60 miles from Cumberland Sound.

### From Aklavik

The hospital at Aklavik has been specially busy this year. On several occasions there were more patients than beds, and improvised couches had to be arranged to meet the emergency, besides which there are patients waiting until a vacancy occurs in order to come in for treatment.

Misses Bradford and McCabe report a very busy, happy time. Both nurses are now quite settled down to life in the Far North, and have already come to love the Eskimo. There is great need for additional accommodation in order to take care of all who need treatment.

The Rev. C. C. Harcourt and Mrs. Harcourt also report a busy time with the school children. Mr. Harcourt paid a visit to Eskimo camps before Christmas, travelling about 125 miles.

The Arctic Mission is pressed for men and money to carry on the work. Great opportunities are opening up on account of the discovery of minerals and the completion of the railway to Hudson Bay this summer.

VEN. A. L. FLEMING, Archdeacon of the Arctic

Expressions of grateful appreciation of the generous and heroic aid rendered to Rev. Henry Morrow, Missionary at Rupert's House, James Bay, in the time of his serious injuries following an accident, by the Ontario Government Department of Forestry, by Captain Maxwell of the Air Service and by Dr. Paul of Cochrane, were passed at the meeting of the M.S.C.C. Executive Committee on April 5th and were later forwarded to these kind friends.



Going home from Church Service—West Peace River Mission—  
July, 1928



The Missionary welcoming new arrivals at Church after  
their long drive.



Bishop Robins and a Confirmation Class,  
Diocese of Athabasca



Some of the Clerical and Lay Delegates,  
Synod of Athabasca, August, 1928

### "The Call of the Pioneer Lands of the West and North-West

Remember—this immigration problem is increasing, the pressure of this movement continues into vast new areas, as railways radiate out in all directions. We must deal with this new throng of people. We need clergy, homes for them that will withstand the cold of winter, stipends, churches to worship in, horses and wheeled conveyances for pastors, sleighs in winter, stables and some motor cars.

These new-comers are not settled in large groups but are scattered over 200,000 square miles between the Athabasca River on the east and the Peace River on the west—Buildings, equipment, implements, and the needs of life drain their resources in the early years in this new land. Now is the time help is needed. This is the day of opportunity for our Church.

"Who knoweth whether thou art not come to the Kingdom for such a time as this?"



Opening service—All Saints' Church, Appleton, Peace River District



Settler's family coming to Church in Winter



Looking south across Beaverlodge Valley from the Government Experimental Farm—Peace River District  
By Kindness of Dept. of Interior, Canadian Government.

In this country from which 14½ million bushels of grain came out last year, this Government Farm is demonstrating that vegetable marrow, squash, beets, onions, carrots, corn, cucumbers and cauliflowers can also be grown—equal to any in Canada.

### Meeting of the Executive Com- mittee of the M.S.C.C.

The Executive Committee, M.S.C.C., met at the Church House, 604 Jarvis Street, Toronto, on Thursday, April 4th, 1929.

There were present: The Primate; the Archbishop of Huron, Chairman; the Bishop of Toronto; the Bishop of Qu'Appelle; Very Rev. J. P. D. Llwyd; Ven. J. B. Fotheringham; C. S. Scott, Esq.; G. C. Coppley, Esq.; G. B. Nicholson, Esq.; the General Treasurer; the General Secretary; R. A. Williams, Esq.



A picnic held during the Annual Meeting of the Athabasca Diocesan Board of the W.A., held at Peace River in July. Thirty members were present, some coming distances of 200 miles by train, boat, motors, and buggies.



# Consecration of the Assistant Bishop of Honan on St. Matthias' Day

"The Sunday morning services yesterday at the Cathedral of St. Paul at Hankow was a very notable one, when the Rev. P. Lindel Tsen, M.A., B.D., was consecrated to the Episcopacy.

The Cathedral was filled to capacity long before the choir, singing "Holy, Holy, Holy," entered the front door at eleven o'clock. Following the choir in procession were delegates from the Diocese of Anking, where most of Mr. Tsen's ministerial life has been spent, and from Honan, to which Diocese the new Bishop has been consecrated, as Assistant to the Right Rev. W. C. White. Members of Mr. Tsen's own family marched in this part of the procession, after which came a large body of the Wu-han clergy, fully vested. Finally came the Bishops of four Dioceses, together with Dr. Gilman, Suffragan-Bishop of Hankow. Bishop Roots as Chairman of the House of Bishops of the whole Tsung Hua Sen Kung Hei (Holy Catholic Church of China) brought up the rear.

The service, which was rendered wholly in Chinese, consisted of the Communion, Litany, and Consecration Liturgies.

After the hymn "Lord, speak to me that I may speak," the Bishop of Honan preached an inspiring sermon from Acts 13: 2—The Holy Ghost said, "Separate me, Barnabas, and Saul, for the work unto which I have called them."

The testimonials for the Bishop-elect were read by Mr. Li Fu-ju, Secretary of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Honan, and by Archdeacon Hu Lan-t'in of Hankow. The consecrators with Bishop Roots were the Bishops of Anking and Honan.

The Right Reverend Bishop Tsen and his family will proceed in the near future to Honan, and will reside in the Cathedral Compound in the City of Kaifeng."

—Courtesy of the North China Daily News.



Delegation from the Diocese of Honan to the Consecration Service at Hankow

In the centre front are Bishop White and Right Rev. P. Lindel Tsen, M.A., B.D., and Rev. Canon G. E. Simmons. At left are Rev. P. C. Wang and Rev. H. J. Wei, B.D., Rector of Trinity Cathedral. Behind are Miss Katherine Robbins, Miss Greta Clark, and four other lay delegates.

The following cable was sent to Bishop White by the Executive Committee of the M.S.C.C., on February 24th, the day of the Consecration of Rev. T. Lindel Tsen to be Assistant Bishop of Honan:

"God send showers of blessing upon Bishop Tsen and Honan."

Bishop White, writing from Kaifeng, Honan, on January 21st, says:

"The \$2,500 we are drawing on the Famine Fund account will of course only be used for famine relief, as I have already written home, and only in Districts in Honan where our own work lies. This money will not be put into the Honan general famine fund as in 1921, but will be administered by our Mission only—the famine not so much due to natural causes as to distress consequent upon Civil War.

"The cost of living has advanced—stores and local products and labour having greatly increased in price."

The Bishop gives certain details of serious personal losses in his own home and those of the Missionaries, which will all have to be made good.

Rev. G. A. Andrew writes from Kaifeng on January 9th:

"The Provincial Government some months ago ordered the destruction of all idols in the province. All temples are now empty. Generally what once were the false gods that the people worshipped now form a big heap of unrecognizable clay in the centre of the floor. The village people and especially the women folk feel that some thing has gone out of their lives. They have nothing now to worship and they are most ready now to hear of the One we have to give them. Oh that we had more labourers of the right sort, enough to pour into the thousands of towns and villages around us and bring to them a Living God and Saviour at this the very moment of their need."

The new Assistant Bishop of Honan, who before his Consecration on February 24th, was Diocesan Secretary, in Anking, a Diocese of the American Church Mission in China, closed the report of his last Missionary trip in that Diocese with the words: "It has reconfirmed my belief that the religion of Christ has taken deep root in China and that the fruit of our continued effort will be without limit."

## The Study Book For 1929

### "THE OLD CHURCH IN THE NEW DOMINION"

The Story of the Anglican Church in Canada

By C. W. VERNON, M.A., B.D., D.C.L.

Written at the request of "The Joint Summer School and Institute Committee of the Church of England in Canada."

Copies of this book are expected to be in hand by the first of May. It is being printed in England by S.P.C.K., and comes in a volume of the size of former study books (242 pages). Price 60c; \$1.00 in cloth. Many orders are already booked at the Literature Department, M.S.C.C., for what promises to be a popular and very helpful study of a most interesting subject.

Canon Vernon has divided his material into five chapters, as follows: The Chapter of Beginnings—the Empire Loyalists—the Establishment and Extension of the Episcopate—Early Days and Development in Western Canada—the Consolidation of the Church and Progress in Modern Times. A Bibliography is appended.

There are sub-divisions in each chapter, specially pointed as an aid to study classes. The type is clear and easily read. The illustrations are good and there is an excellent map of Ecclesiastical Canada.

The story deals with "the Setting Up, the Problems and the Progress of the Old Church in the New Dominion of Canada." The style is easy and direct. The aim of the story is "that the Church people of the present, the child of the past, may be helped and encouraged to plan and to build wisely and well for the greater future of which the present service is parent . . . and in the remembrance that all the events related must be thought of as part of the Great Crusade for Christ and the Church, to make our Dominion His Dominion by the power of His Cross."

This is the first popular History of the founding and development of the Church of England in Canada, which covers West as well as East, modern as well as early days.

Please order early to ensure sufficient number of copies when the Study Class season opens. After the first shipment, orders will have to be forwarded to England, which entails delay. Address Literature Department, M.S.C.C., 604 Jarvis Street, Toronto 5.

News of the death of Right Rev. Charles Henry Brent, D.D., S.T.D., LL.D., at Lausanne, Switzerland, on March 26th, was received throughout Canada with sorrow and a painful sense of loss.

According to his own wish that interment should take place where he died, Bishop Brent was buried at Lausanne. It is most fitting that he should lie there.

Among outstanding men of his time, Bishop Brent was a truly great man and leaves behind him a life work which has enriched and advanced great world-wide movements to the glory of God and to the good of many peoples. He was specially noted for his leadership in the World Conference on Faith and Order; for his work in the International Council on the Opium Traffic; for his seventeen years of Missionary services as Bishop of the Philippines, and for his notable War services.

While he was a beloved and highly honoured citizen of the United States, he will ever be remembered with pride in this country of his birth and early manhood, for which he cherished an unflinching affection.

A Memorial Service will be held at Buffalo, the See City of the Diocese of Western New York, on April 24th, when the Bishop of Toronto will be present to represent the Church of England in Canada.

### Let Us Pray

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Whose Son Jesus Christ did charge His Apostles that they should preach the Gospel to every nation, help us to show our gratitude for Thy benefits to us by earnestness in fulfilling His command, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God and Heavenly Father, have pity on those who do not know Thee, and on those who are forgetful of Thee, and on those who are far from the Church of their fathers in a strange land; visit them with Thy salvation and hasten the coming of Thy Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.